



URBAN DISTRICT OF FLEET

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

and

**Public Health Inspector**

for

**1963**



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# PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

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Medical Officer of Health:

J. Coutts Milne, M. B. , Ch. B. , D. P. H. , D. T. M. & H.

Public Health Inspector:

F. E. Smale, C. R. S. H. , M. A. P. H. I.

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## STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1963

Area: 3,694 acres

Population: 15,380 (estimated mid-year, 1963) - (Census 1961 - 13,672)

Number of inhabited houses: 4,763

Sum represented by penny rate: £2,340 (estimated 1.4.64.)

Rateable Value: £566,349 (31.12.63.)

General Rate: 9/4d. in the £

Birth Rate: 25.42 (crude): 22.34 (standardised)

Death Rate: 9.04 (crude): 9.22 (standardised)

Comparability factors: Births - 0.88      Deaths - 1.02

Infantile death rate per 1,000 births: 17.60



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the Fleet Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration the Annual Report for the year, 1963, prepared according to the directions of the Minister of Health.

Points of note in the vital statistical figures are an increase in the population of over eight per cent, with a reduction, as compared with the previous year, in the death rate but with an increase in the infant mortality rate. The birth rate, however, is still very much above the national rate of 18.2 per 1,000 of the population. The incidence of infectious diseases apart from measles and whooping cough was low and no case of poliomyelitis nor of diphtheria was reported.

Population.

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population for 1963 is 15,380, showing an increase of 1,200 over the estimate for the previous year. Of the increase only 253 is contributed by the excess of births over deaths. *Pari passu*, by the end of 1963 the number of inhabited houses had increased by more than 400. Both the Urban and County Councils appreciate that such an increase inevitably necessitates expansion in the health services of the town.

The full County Report from the 1961 Census for Hampshire was published in December, 1963 and certain information therein would appear to be of general interest. In April that year, 1,582 persons were aged 65 years and over, being 12.3 per cent of the population, compared with 13.5 per cent in the County and 11.9 per cent in England and Wales. There were 820 one or two person-households in the town, containing persons of pensionable age. These households contained 1,112 persons of pensionable age, which is 58 per cent of all such persons in the town. Among these persons, 27 men and 258 women were living alone; 528 persons lived in two person-households containing one person of pensionable age and 584 persons lived in two person-households where both persons were of pensionable age.

The percentage of persons living at more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per room was 2.2, an improvement on the figure of 4.5 at the 1951 Census.

In the census report a table giving the availability of certain household arrangements in private households is of interest. Of 4,121 households, 85.5 per cent had a cold water tap, a hot water tap, a fixed bath and a w.c. The percentage, however, of households sharing or entirely without one or other of these arrangements were:

	<u>Sharing</u>	<u>Entirely without</u>
Cold water tap	0.3	0.3
Hot water tap	0.2	12.2
Fixed bath	2.8	10.1
W. c.	0.7	2.6

These figures may serve to show that there is still need for improving properties under the Improvement Grants scheme.

The availability of a fixed bath within the building can be regarded as evidence of a reasonable standard of comfort and hygiene and the percentage of households in Fleet lacking a fixed bath can be compared with the figure of 11.9 per cent for the aggregate of Municipal Boroughs and Urban Districts in the County and of 19.5 per cent for the aggregate of Rural Districts. The period from 1951 to 1961 has seen a general improvement, the proportion of households entirely without access to a bath has decreased from 27.7 per cent among 2,551 households in 1951 to 10.1 in 1961.

#### Causes of Deaths.

The commonest causes of death were diseases of the circulatory system, followed by vascular lesions of the nervous system and by cancer. Of the 11 cancer deaths in men, 4 were due to lung cancer. The publication of the American report on smoking and health in early 1964 again focussed attention on the importance of cigarette smoking as a cause of lung cancer, the risk increasing with the duration of smoking and with the number of cigarettes smoked daily and being diminished by ceasing to smoke. The report stressed that smoking is a health hazard of sufficient importance to warrant remedial action. On the other hand according to a Commonwealth Economic Committee Report, British smokers are estimated to have spent a record £1,285 million on tobacco products in 1963, representing 7 per cent of total consumer expenditure in the United Kingdom.

It is well recognised that there is a considerable disparity in the survival rate of older men and women; in Fleet, 44 men dying between the ages of 45 and 74 years, compared with 21 women in the same age group. This disparity lends weight to a comment in a recent Ministry of Health report on health education that middle aged men as a group appear to be specially in need of health education; their health habits are probably worse now than they were 40 years ago, the improvement in their expectation of life having been slow and much less marked than among women. Certainly it is not easy to persuade adult males to modify their habits in regard to cigarette smoking, the taking of more daily exercise and curbing a tendency to obesity.

#### Infant Mortality.

Of the 7 deaths of infants under one year of age, 5 occurred within two days of birth and the other two from congenital malformations within two months of birth.

As in previous years, the routine work of protecting young children against the preventible diseases of smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis continued to be carried out and thanks are due to the private medical practitioners for their help in this connection.

I am grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their encouragement and help, to Mr. Collier, Clerk of the Council, to Mr. Smale, Public Health Inspector and Mrs. Bramble, and later in the year Mrs. Woodford for their ready assistance, enabling me to carry out my duties.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. COUTTS MILNE

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:	M.	F.	Total
Number . . . . .	198	194	392
Rate per 1,000 population . . . . .			25.42
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)			2.04
Stillbirths:			
Number . . . . .	2	1	3
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths . . . . .			7.6
Total Live and Stillbirths . . . . .	200	195	395
Infant Deaths (deaths under one year) . . . . .	3	4	7
Infant Mortality Rates:			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births			17.60
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births . . . . .			18.23
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births . . . . .			Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births) . . . . .			12.75
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births) . . . . .			12.75
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)			20.25



Maternal Mortality (including abortion):	M.	F.	Total
Number of deaths . . . . .			Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths . . .			Nil

Deaths:

Deaths (all causes) . . . . .	72	67	139
Death rate per 1,000 population . . . . .			9.04

Comparative Rates.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1962	22.44	10.13	5.86
1963	22.34	9.22	17.60
England & Wales (1963)	18.2	12.2	20.9

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1963

	M.	F.
Cancer - stomach . . . . .	1	-
Cancer - lung, bronchus . . . . .	4	2
Cancer - breast . . . . .	-	2
Cancer - uterus . . . . .	-	3
Cancer - other . . . . .	7	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia . . . . .	-	1
Diabetes . . . . .	-	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system . . . . .	9	12
Coronary disease, angina . . . . .	18	11
Hypertension with heart disease . . . . .	2	1
Other heart disease . . . . .	9	5
Other circulatory disease . . . . .	-	1
Influenza . . . . .	2	-
Pneumonia . . . . .	4	7
Bronchitis . . . . .	6	4
Other diseases of respiratory system . . . . .	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum . . . . .	-	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea . . . . .	2	1
Congenital malformations . . . . .	-	1

	M.	F.
Other defined and ill-defined diseases . . . . .	4	6
Motor vehicle accidents . . . . .	1	-
All other accidents . . . . .	1	1
Suicide . . . . .	1	-

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### Nursing and Midwifery Staff:

District Midwife:	Miss S. F. B. Hicks, ) 29 Kings Road, ) Fleet. ) Tel: Fleet 1178 )	Both attached to practice of Drs. Tilly, Robinson and Winchurch.
<i>Mural</i> District Midwife:	Miss R. M. Phillips, ) 34 Connaught Road, ) Fleet. ) Tel: Fleet 365 )	
District Nurse/Midwife:	Miss M. E. Harris, ) 48 Avondale Road, ) Fleet. ) Tel: Fleet 1690 )	Attached to practice of Drs. Dobbin, Matthewson, Crawshaw and Poyntz-Wright.

There is also a home-help service in operation and this is administered by a County Council organiser with headquarters at Basingstoke and an office in Fleet. I am indebted to the Divisional Organiser, Miss M. E. Reed for the following information:-

"The number of new cases assisted in the Fleet Urban District during the year 1963 was 51, as follows:-

Maternity : 19; mentally disordered : 2; post hospital : 3;  
chronic : 2; child care : 3; aged, sick and infirm : 22.

There were 12 helpers on the register at the end of the year, the same as at the beginning of the year."

This area for general hospital purposes, comes under the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

The Fleet Hospital contains 33 beds - (9 male, 14 female, 6 children's and 4 private wards) and provides general medical and surgical treatment. There is a separate children's ward. There is no resident Medical Officer. There is a consultant surgical and medical staff in addition to the Doctors in practice in the area, who attend at the hospital.

Cases of infectious diseases are treated at Northfield Hospital, Aldershot. The ambulance service provides for removal of patients to hospital through the local depots at Aldershot and Farnborough.

The County Council is responsible for School Medical Services, Mental Health, Maternity and Child Welfare, the care of premature infants and illegitimate children and the Tuberculosis service (prevention, care and after-care only).

The special clinic for Venereal Diseases is held at the General Hospital, Aldershot, and is under the jurisdiction of the Regional Hospital Board, as is the treatment part of the Tuberculosis service.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Service is at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, (Telephone 3807), and the Director is Dr. M. H. Hughes. All types of bacteriological examinations are carried out there.

Chemical examinations of water, foods etc., are carried out by the City Analyst of Portsmouth, by arrangement with Portsmouth City Council.

Clinic and Treatment Centres

Diphtheria Immunisation: Clinics are held at the Schools as required.

Special Clinics:

Women	-	Held every Wednesday - 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.; 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. at Aldershot General Hospital, St. George's Road, Aldershot.
Men	-	Held every Wednesday - 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Aldershot Hospital, St. George's Road, Aldershot.

Chest Clinic:

At Northfield Hospital, Redan Road, Aldershot. Held every Monday - 9.15 a.m. Old patients, 11 a.m. New patients, second Monday every month - Special Bronchitic Clinic.

One Monday every month - B. C. G. session.

One Monday every month - Post B. C. G. session.

Held every Tuesday - 1.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Old and new contacts. Old patients. Urgent new patients.

Held every Thursday - 9.15 a.m. Old patients and urgent new patients. 3 p.m. Old patients.

Held on first and third Wednesday every month at Fleet Hospital, old and new patients.



## Child Welfare:

### Fleet

Every Tuesday morning and every Friday afternoon at the Church Hall, Albert Street, Fleet.

### Crookham

Every Monday afternoon at the War Memorial Hall, Sandy Lane, Crookham.

The County Council Health Visitor/School Nurse is Mrs. Hill, H. V. , S. R. N. , S. C. M. , and for the Crookham Ward, Miss Rogers, H. V. , S. R. N. , S. C. M. Also Mrs. P. KcKinney, H. V. , S. R. N. , S. C. M. (attached to the practice of Drs. Dobbin, Mathewson, Crawshaw and Poyntz-Wright).

Outside the District but serving the area, School clinics are held as follows:-

School Eye Clinic at  
Aldershot General Hospital

By appointment

Speech Clinic at School  
Clinic,  
St. George's Road East,  
Aldershot.

By appointment

Child Guidance Clinic at  
Manor Park House,  
Health Clinic,  
Aldershot.

By appointment

Orthopaedic Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board, although in Aldershot, the Clinics are held at the County Council School Clinic, St. George's Road East, Aldershot.

Dental treatment is available for children of school age, pre-school children and expectant and nursing mothers. At present this is provided in a mobile clinic by appointment only.

## Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Vaccination:

Diphtheria and whooping cough vaccination prophylaxis for infants and school children is done by the Local Authority for the County Council and it is a free service. Parents may elect to have their children done privately by their own doctor. Children under school age can still be immunised at the weekly child welfare clinic.



PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases:

General.

The chief features of the returns of infectious diseases in England and Wales during 1963 was the high level of measles and whooping cough and the record low levels of poliomyelitis and diphtheria. The incidence of poliomyelitis has fallen to about one fifth of the level prevailing before the 1947 outbreak, when 8,592 cases were notified during the year. Enteric fever showed an increase, accounted for in part by imported cases from Zermatt, Switzerland, in early spring. Whooping cough showed a four fold increase over 1962; why this should be so is not clear in view of the continued and presumably increased use of triple vaccines. One possible explanation suggested by Dr. Preston of Manchester is that the infecting bacterium may now be different serologically from the organism with which children are being immunised.

This town experienced the usual biennial epidemic of measles, with most of the cases occurring during the first and second quarters of the year. The problem has yet to be solved of finding a vaccine against measles which causes only slight reactions and provides long lasting immunity.

Comparative Tables

Disease	1962	1963
Scarlet Fever	2	2
Pneumonia	4	5
Measles	33	562
Whooping Cough	2	26
Erysipelas	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	3
Dysentery	-	1

Immunisation and Vaccination Procedures:

The immunisation of children against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus and of their vaccination against poliomyelitis and smallpox continued to be a major concern of the Health Department. It needs to be remembered that the absence of serious infectious diseases should not be allowed to lull us into an attitude of complacency and there is still need to raise the rates of immunisation as near to 100 per cent as possible.

During the year, on the advice of the Standing Medical Advisory Committee for the Ministry of Health, the use of F. T. and T. A. F. as antigens in diphtheria immunisation was discontinued and the following antigens are now kept in stock:-

1. Triple Antigen for primary immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.
2. Alum Precipitated Diphtheria Toxoid for primary or re-inforcing doses.
3. Combined Diphtheria/Tetanus Alum Precipitated Toxoid for immunising children to whom the administration of whooping cough vaccine is considered unnecessary or undesirable.

The following table shows the number immunised during the year.

Table (a)

Number of children who completed a course of primary immunisation and who received re-inforcing injections.

Date of Birth	Diphtheria only		Diphtheria/Whooping Cough		Diphtheria/Tetanus		Triple		Whooping Cough only	
	P	B	P	B	P	B	P	B	P	B
1963	-	-	-	-	5	-	172	-	-	-
1962	-	-	-	-	65	-	119	1	-	-
1961	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	2	-	-
1960	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
1959	4	1	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-
1954/1958	-	98	-	-	-	34	-	88	-	-
1949/1953	-	12	-	-	2	2	-	21	-	-
TOTALS :	4	111	-	-	73	36	297	119	-	-

The majority of the injections were given by private practitioners.

#### Poliomyelitis Vaccination:

For poliomyelitis vaccination, the vaccine of choice is the sabin type oral vaccine which has proved both safe and effective. Many countries have reported marked reduction of the incidence of poliomyelitis following the use of the oral vaccine. Last year there were only 78 cases of acute poliomyelitis in England and Wales, the lowest number for many years and there seems little doubt that the immunisation campaign which was begun in 1956 played a major part in bringing this about.

The following table shows the number of cards received of persons vaccinated in the district during 1963.

SALK VACCINE			ORAL VACCINE				
1st & 2nd injections	3rd injection	4th injection	3 doses	Reinforcing doses after		2 doses after 2 Salk	1 dose at School entry
				2 Salk	3 Salk		
9	10	5	384	47	36	56	58

Vaccination:

It will be noted that the number of children vaccinated under the age of one year is very much less than in previous years. This figure, however, is not comparable with previous years as advice issued by the Ministry of Health during the latter part of 1962 recommended that children should preferably be vaccinated during their second year rather than at the age of 4 to 5 months. Figures for vaccination, both primary and re-vaccinations, in 1962 were, however, greatly boosted by the recurrence of cases of smallpox in Yorkshire and Wales, early that year.

The following table gives details of the age groups vaccinated.

Age at which vaccinated	Primary Vaccination	Revaccinations
Under 1 year	27	-
1 year	99	-
2 - 4 years	6	4
5 - 14 years	5	34
15 and over	9	90
TOTALS :	146	128

Tuberculosis:

The number of new cases notified was 5; there were no deaths from tuberculosis.



Venereal Diseases:

No cases of venereal diseases were specially brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

Infestation:

No cases of nits or scabies were reported to the Department.

Disinfection:

No houses were disinfected after notifiable diseases or on request.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the Fleet Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1963 and my seventeenth as your Public Health Inspector.

As the statistics show, the district continues to grow and this in its turn necessitates more inspection work, particularly in relation to new shops. Routine inspection of all types of premises concerned with the environmental services continues to play an important and ever increasing part in the life of the Department, not only from the external inspection point of view but administratively as well. I am conscious of the fact that there has been no detailed housing survey since 1954 and such a survey will have to be undertaken soon if the Housing Committee are to be able to plan for their future house building requirements. The passing of the new Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act and the new Housing Bill will increase the work of the Department.

On the whole, 1963 was an uneventful year, which provides some consolation in view of the sporadic outbreaks of food poisoning, etc., which occur in different parts of the country. But this must not lead to complacency, especially in the matter of food hygiene and vigilance on the part of food handlers, public and officials alike must be maintained.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The whole of the water supply for the area is provided by the Mid-Wessex Water Company, and I am indebted to the Chief Engineer of the Company for the following report:-

- "1. Water was supplied to the whole urban district by the Mid-Wessex Water Company from wells in the chalk at their works at Greywell, Itchel and Lasham.

The supply was continuously laid on under pressure and was satisfactory as to quantity and quality. The water was softened at the source before distribution so as to comply with the statutory limitation of hardness of 12° Clark and chlorination is applied at all sources.

2. Chemical and bacteriological examination of the raw and treated waters were regularly and frequently made by the Company's resident chemists and bacteriologists in their laboratory and independent examinations were also made by an independent laboratory. All samples were satisfactory. The fluoride content of the supply is within the range 0.1 to 0.2 P. P. M.

3. The waters do not have any plumbo-solvent action.
4. No action was required by the Company in respect of any form of contamination.
5. The approximate number of connections in the District at the end of 1963 was 5,802. No information is available as to the number of stand-pipes. "

## Water Sampling

### (a) Public Main Supply

Four samples of the Mid-Wessex Water Company's main supply were taken from sources in different parts of the district and all were reported satisfactory, bacteriologically. The samples were not submitted for full chemical analysis and the hardness figures were 13.0 degrees (Clark's scale), 10.5, 10.4 and 9.7

### (b) Public Swimming Pool

There is one open-air privately-owned swimming pool in the district and the water (a main supply) is treated by filtration, aeration and chlorination. Chemical testing for chlorine content carried out as a routine measure provides a reasonable check on the bacterial quality of the water. Samples taken at the end of the season showed no coliform bacilli in 100 m.l. and a nil plate count.

## Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

I am indebted to your Surveyor, Mr. J.D. Chivers, for the following report:-

"The pumps, electric motors and equipment at Avondale Road, Hitches Lane and Pinegrove pumping stations have been maintained in good condition and have operated satisfactorily, also the ejector stations at Aldershot Road and Cove Road.

The whole of the machinery for lifting sewage to the disposal works has given good service throughout the year.

The scheme for Elvetham Road pumping main to allow sewage to be pumped direct from Hitches Lane pumping station to the disposal works has been completed by the contractors, Messrs. Holdyne Limited and is now in full operation.

The scheme for the completion of increased pumping capacity at Hitches Lane pumping station including rising main to disposal works and the laying of new sewers in the Western Area prepared by Messrs. John Taylor and Sons has been approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

The tender of Messrs. Streeter and Company of Godalming in the sum of £71,092 has been accepted and work will commence early in 1964.

The report on the Central and Eastern Areas drainage system is being prepared by the Council's consultant engineers.

During the year the Council created the post of Sewage Works Manager."

#### Public Cleansing

Weekly collections of refuse have been maintained throughout the district and is being disposed of by controlled tipping at Calthorpe Park.

A large area of land has been improved in readiness for the provision of sports grounds.

Owing to the rapid development of building, proceeding in the district, another additional Dennis 15 cu. yd. refuse vehicle was purchased during the year.

#### Improvement Grants

The total number of applications received was about the same as last year, represented by an increase in "discretionary" and a decrease in "standard" grants and the table below gives details of the applications.

Most of the discretionary grant applications were for the typical alteration and conversion of outbuildings to form bathrooms with the provision of hot water supplies and other modern amenities, whilst the standard grant applications were for the provision of one or more of the five basic amenities.

The Government, realising that the present grant schemes have failed in the main to entice owners to modernise their premises, are seeking powers in a new Housing Bill not only to make the grants more attractive but to introduce a measure of compulsion.

Type of Grant	Applications received.	No. of Premises	No. Approved (Premises)	No Refused	No. Approved but not taken up
Discretionary	18	21	19	1	1
Standard	4	4	4	-	-
Totals	22	25	23	1	1



## Rent Act, 1957 - Certificates of Disrepair

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received during the year.

## Housing Act, 1957

Three dwelling houses, not in the Council's approved proposals, were voluntarily vacated and demolished during the year.

The position regarding houses included in stages I and II of the Council's approved proposals remained unaltered. The 22 houses for general needs and 24 flatlets for old people were completed and occupied during the year.

## Housing Building Progress

Your Surveyor, (Mr. J. D. Chivers) has kindly supplied the following information:

"During the year, schemes for the construction of 24 flatlets for old people at Reading Road North, 10 houses at Wickham Estate and 12 houses at Basingbourne Road were completed.

Total number of post-war houses erected in the district are Council houses - 401; Private Enterprise - 1,620; making a total of 2,021."

I am indebted to Mr. M. G. Atkins, Housing Officer, for the following report:-

"During the year the housing programme for Basingbourne Road and the Coxheath Estate were completed, and there are no further houses in course of construction.

Campbell Close was completed during the year, the first tenant moving in during March and the last in July, the Warden having taken up residence in December of the previous year. The communal rooms were officially opened in October.

The Council's policy of transferring existing tenants to smaller accommodation more suitable to means, size of family, etc., was maintained and thirty-one such transfers were effected, of which four went to Campbell Close.

Other lettings during the year were as follows:-

General Housing - new tenancies	23
General Housing - new tenancies (N. G. T. E. )	7
Old People's Bungalows - new tenancies	2
Campbell Close - all new tenancies	24

One of the Council's older type houses on the Albany Road site was vacated in March and owing to its bad state of repair will not be relet.



A further 14 visits were made by the Hampshire County Council Welfare Officers and myself to investigate fresh applications for tenancies of Campbell Close and there is now a waiting list of recommended applicants for this type of accommodation.

At the close of the year, seventy-one applications were received for general housing and graded according to greatest need. "

## Caravans

The one permanent site at Crookham, licensed for a total of 140 caravans, was maintained in a very satisfactory condition during the year. Site works on the last extension continued to progress steadily. The Council's policy regarding individual sites remains unchanged.

## RODENT CONTROL

The Council is a constituent member, together with other Local Authorities in the North East of the County, of the North Hants Rodent Control Committee which has met quarterly since 1945 to discuss problems, hear technical lectures, and see films on rodent and other pest problems. Representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the War Department attend. Locally, a free service continued to be given to both business and private premises.

Special attention was given to new sewers in the district, as it is found that drain inlets left open during development of sites can provide access for rats.

A summary of the work carried out by the Rodent Operator is given below.

	Type of Property				
	L. A.	Dwelling-houses	Agricultural	Business Premises	Total
1. No of premises inspected	16	409	6	407	838
2. No. of premises found to be infested by rats	16	171	-	102	289
3. No. of premises found to be infested by mice	-	13	-	4	17
4. No. of inspected premises treated by L. A.	16	184	-	106	306
5. No. of block control schemes carried out . . . . .	63				

Pest Destruction

The routine measures of spraying the Fleet Pond and small ponds and ditches in the vicinity and treating the road gullies for mosquito prevention were continued.

Dwelling-houses were treated for the following pests:-

Ants	:	6	Cockroaches	:	1
Flies	:	8	Mosquitoes	:	6
Moles	:	3	Beetles	:	2
Wasps	:	4	Squirrels		
Bees	:	1	and rabbits	:	3

SHOPS

The County Council are responsible through their Weights and Measures Department for the closing and other provisions of the Shops Acts, except for the sanitary provisions contained in Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950, which is administered by the Local Sanitary Authority. The provisions of the latter section are carried out.

DRAINAGE

In the past, complaints were received from occupiers of houses in the Elvetham Road area, of flooding from the Council's sewers but the laying of a new direct sewer from Hitches Lane pumping station to the outfall works, completed in 1963, appears to have remedied the difficulties.

A further ten dwelling houses on cesspool drainage were connected to the public sewers during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply

There are two producers of milk within the Urban District, (both producing Tuberculin Tested milk) and sixteen retailers of bottled milk - (twelve from shops only).

37 inspections of dairies were made during the year and no statutory action was called for.

Of all the bottled milk sold in the area only a very small percentage is not heat-treated (i. e. either pasteurised or sterilised) and nearly all the heat-treated milk is sold as tuberculin tested milk. It is gratifying that at long last there are now no areas in the country where other than heat-treated or tuberculin tested raw milk is sold.

(b) Sampling

A total of 44 samples were taken with the following results:-

Designation	No. of samples submitted	Methylene Blue Test				Phosphatase Test		
		P	F	Test Void	Not done	P	F	Not done
Pasteurised	12	12	-	-	-	12	-	-
Tuberculin Tested (pasteurised)	32	27	4	-	1	31	-	1
Totals	44	39	4	-	1	43	-	1

Of the 44 samples of bottled milk submitted for the methylene blue test, 4 failed the test but investigations failed to ascertain the cause. One sample of tuberculin tested (pasteurised) milk was declared to have arrived at the laboratory showing evidence of "taint and souring" and this was undoubtedly a bottle returned from a consumer but not segregated on the roundsman's van and steps were taken by the dairyman concerned to see that this practice did not recur.

Nine of the samples submitted were from schools in the district, 32 were from roundsmen and 3 were from local dairies. No action was required under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 which provides for action where milk is suspected of having caused disease in human beings.

#### Designated Milk

The Local Authority, under delegated powers from the County Council issue dealers' licences on behalf of the latter.

At the end of 1963 the following licences were in force:-

For Pasteurised Milk	:	1 Dealer's (pasteuriser's) 16 Dealer's (pre-packed milk)
For Tuberculin Tested Milk	:	1 Dealer's 7 Dealer's (pre-packed milk)
For Sterilised Milk	:	1 Dealer's (pre-packed milk)

The one pasteurising establishment in the district is licensed by the local Authority on behalf of the County Council.

#### (b) Meat and Food Inspection

The butchers in the area, except in one case, obtain all their supplies of meat from wholesalers. One butcher purchases animals at market and has them slaughtered at a licensed slaughterhouse in Farnborough. The meat is, generally, of a high standard and only relatively small amounts have to be condemned at the retail shops.



Slaughtering Facilities

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food having accepted the Council's report under Section 3 of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, there is nothing further to add under this heading. There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the area, the two licensed before 1939 not having been re-opened.

The following articles of food were surrendered and condemned as being unfit for human food.

Tinned foods (various)	:	45 tins	Fish	:	9 stones
Frozen foods (packets)	:	1389	Cooked Meats	:	33½ lbs.
Bacon	:	328 lbs.	Offal	:	6 lbs.
Tinned Ham, Pork, Veal Etc.	:	60 lbs.	Chicken	:	56 lbs.
Meat Pies	:	112			

FOOD

In accordance with Circular 19/56 the following information is given regarding the inspection of food and food premises in the area:-

- (i) Number of food premises, by type of business, in the district at the end of the year is as follows:-

<u>Type of Business</u>						<u>Number</u>
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bakehouses and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	10
Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fish (Raw)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fish (Fried)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Greengrocery	...	...	...	...	...	7
Grocers (incl. "mixed" shops)	...	...	...	...	...	29
Cafes (incl. snackbars and hotels)	...	...	...	...	...	12
Factory and School canteens	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	45

- (ii) Number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

<u>Type of Business</u>						<u>Number</u>
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ice-cream	...	...	...	...	...	45
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	2



- (iii) A total of 392 inspections of all types of food premises was carried out during the year. In 1950 the Council made byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and no statutory action was necessary to secure compliance with them.
- (iv) There is no clean food guild in the area, reliance being placed on individual advice and information on food hygiene at routine inspections.
- (v) The small amounts of carcase beef and offal and other raw foods are disposed of in a local factory boiler fire. Other food stuffs, including tinned foods, are disposed of on the Council's refuse tip.
- (vi) No special examination of stock or of a consignment of food has been necessary.
- (vii) One cafe manufactures a small quantity of ice-cream for consumption in the cafe. The provisions of the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947-52 are carried out both at these premises and at the 45 retail premises where only a pre-packed article is sold.
- (viii) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and 1962.

The general standard of hygiene in food premises remains satisfactory but conditions will only remain so by a high level of routine inspection. The dangers of food poisoning arising from the careless and un-hygienic handling of food is impressed on all food handlers during routine visits to premises. No statutory action was necessary to remedy the few contraventions noted.

- (ix) Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Sections 2 and 8

During the year three complaints were received about the soundness of food.

In one case a wrapped pork pie was found to be mouldy when sold and the retailer, after investigation, was warned.

Another case concerned a mouldy cornish pasty. The case was referred to the County Weights and Measures Department, in accordance with the Council's agreed policy, and the retailer was prosecuted and fined £5 and costs.

The third case concerned the presence, in a frozen steaklet, of a small piece of metal. After thorough investigations, the manufacturers were warned.

## Food Poisoning

There were no outbreaks of food poisoning in the district during the year; nor were any isolated cases reported.

- (c) Adulteration etc.

The County Council is the responsible Authority.

I am indebted to Mr. J. S. Preston, Chief Sampling Officer, for the following report:-

1. I beg to report that during the year ended the 31st December, 1963, 127 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the Fleet Urban District.

2. Milk Samples

98 samples of milk, including 55 of Channel Islands, were obtained, the samples being from bottled milk intended for retail sale and from wholesale supplies to dairies for processing and bottling. No instances of added water occurred and as regards fat, all the samples of "retail" milk were satisfactory and those from supplies to dairies were also free from complaint, except in the case of two samples of Channel Islands milk - from a consignment consisting of two churns - which were slightly below the standard of 4 per cent of fat required in milk of this description. The average fat content of the consignment was 3.7 per cent and in view of the comparatively small discrepancy and of the absence of any previous complaint, the producer was warned. Subsequent samples from the same source proved to be satisfactory.

3. Miscellaneous Samples

29 samples of articles other than milk were submitted for analysis, two of these being in respect of complaints from members of the public. Of the latter, one consisted of a Cornish Pasty which was alleged to be contaminated with mould and, in fact, legal proceedings were taken in respect of this against the retailer at whose shop the Pasty had been sold. The complaint was no doubt due to the fact that the Pasty had been retained beyond its normal shelf life and no blame appeared to attach to the manufacturer. The retailer was fined £5 and ordered to pay £8. 10. 0d. costs.

The other complaint concerned a tin of Fruit Salad which, when opened, was found to show signs of rust and discolouration. Analysis of the contents indicated an excessive proportion of metal contamination. The matter was taken up with the packers and investigations by them and by the producers of the container, showed the contamination to have resulted from a minute hole in the container, which had resulted in the internal tinning being attacked. It was not possible to establish how or when the hole had occurred and legal action was not considered advisable. No doubt, however, the inquiries made served a useful purpose.

In connection with the other samples, one only was adversely reported upon, this being a sample of ice-cream which was slightly deficient in non-fatty solids. The quality of the ice-cream was unusually good, the amount of fat present being almost double that required. In the circumstances, the producer was cautioned.

4. General

During routine visits to traders, attention was given to the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, with regard to their application to the labelling and descriptions of food and drugs.

# GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION WORK

Details of the inspections carried out during the year are given in the following table:-

Premises Inspected	Number of Inspections
Re: Water Supply ... ..	6
Drainage ... ..	219
Factories ... ..	69
Moveable Dwellings ... ..	51
Refuse collection (dustbins and disposal) ... ..	3
Rodent Control ... ..	6
Shops (re Shops Act) ... ..	26
Schools ... ..	12
Swimming Pools ... ..	12
Noise nuisance ... ..	20
Infectious Diseases ... ..	6
Miscellaneous sanitary visits ... ..	45
Atmospheric pollution ... ..	21
Rivers Pollution ... ..	1
Pest Infestation ... ..	5
Keeping of Animals ... ..	5
Miscellaneous other visits ... ..	5

## Meat and Food Inspection

Butchers shops ... ..	60
Fishmongers and fishfriers ... ..	39
Grocers ... ..	55
Greengrocers ... ..	12
Dairies... ..	37
Bakehouses ... ..	12
Food preparing premises... ..	35
Cafes and Canteens ... ..	40
Visits re Milk Sampling ... ..	50
Miscellaneous food visits... ..	27
Confectioners ... ..	17
Ice-cream premises ... ..	8

## Dwellinghouses

Under Public Health Acts... ..	31
Re-inspections under Public Health Acts ... ..	47
Under Housing Acts ... ..	3
Re-inspections under Housing Acts ... ..	26
Inspections re Improvement Grants ... ..	41
Re-inspections re Improvement Grants - works in progress ... ..	245



Miscellaneous Housing visits	...	...	...	...	20
Inspections re overcrowding	...	...	...	...	2
Total:					<u>1,319</u>

#### Drainage

Alterations, additions and repairs	...	...	...	34
Drains stoppages cleared	...	...	...	152
Drain tests (water and smoke)	...	...	...	101

The Rodent Operator also carries out the work of unstopping drains, on request, at a charge to the occupier of 2/- per hour. This scheme is to the advantage of the occupier and is instrumental in the prevention of public health nuisances.

#### Complaints

Rodent infestation	...	...	...	...	170
Drainage (obstructed drains)	...	...	...	...	157
Pest infestation (general)	...	...	...	...	34
Public Health nuisances (general)	...	...	...	...	30
Housing defects	...	...	...	...	11
Total:					<u>402</u>

### FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961 are now given as an Appendix to the Report.

#### NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR

Form of Notice	Number served	Premises	Defects
Informal:			
Sanitary defects	14	18	61
Other	1	1	1
Statutory:			
Sanitary defects	1	1	7



In conclusion, I must once again express to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee my appreciation of their support. I also express to your Clerk and Surveyor, my thanks for their continued co-operation during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. E. SMALE

Public Health Inspector.

June, 1964.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
in respect of the year 1963 for the Urban District  
of Fleet in the County of Hampshire

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	3	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	66	69	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises).	-	-	-	-
Totals:	69	69	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H. M. Inspector	By H. M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S. 2)	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted  (6)
	Found  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred		
			To H. M. Inspector  (4)	By H. M. Inspector  (5)	
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3	-	2	-
Totals:	6	6	-	2	-

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## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### OUTWORK Sections 133 and 134

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NIL RETURN

Signed: J. COUTTS MILNE

Medical Officer of Health

June, 1964.

